

Solidarités Jeunesses Vietnam presents

SJ Vietnam Newsletter

November– December 2009

10th issue



We are looking for local and international participants for the next Workcamps:



Christmas and New Year festival for disadvantaged children (15-25/12 2009)



Youth House School for disadvantaged children (04-15/01 2010)

Our Long-Term Volunteers

German		8
French		4
Australian		2
Belgian		1
Danish		1
Norwegian		1
Finnish		1
Singaporean		1



Lunar New Year for the less fortunate people and children (18-29/01 2010)

Please check the description on our website:
www.sjvietnam.org
and/or contact us at:
workcamp@sjvietnam.org

www.sjvietnam.org

Blog: <http://blog.sjvietnam.org/>

International Volunteer Day 2009



“A day for recognizing and honoring the efforts of volunteering worldwide, and an opportunity for volunteer organizations and individual volunteers to showcase their contribution to the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals. ”

Here were the goals of the International Volunteer Day 2009 which took place on the 5th of December at the Botanical Garden of Ha Noi as in many other capital cities throughout the world.

This year the event was organized thanks to the contribution of 14 local and international organizations active in the sphere of volunteering in Ha Noi.

The global theme

was “Volunteering for our planet” and provided the participants with the opportunity to find out more about a wide range of volunteer opportunities. It also allowed them to increase their knowledge about environmental issues and environmental protection through thematic activities that covered topics like wildlife protection, the ocean, green transport, waste, 3Rs, global climate change



International Volunteer Day 2009

and urban pollution. They also took part in many leisure activities such as fun games and music performances done by the volunteers themselves and had the chance to get to know other local and international volunteers.

During the whole day, SJ Vietnam staff, international and local volunteers contributed to the celebration by holding SJV's own tent and organizing many activities (fun games, music, dance and cheer performances).



« A day for recognizing and honoring the efforts of volunteering worldwide »



That sunny Saturday was a big success, as the number of participants suggests, and all the organizations already settled an appointment for next year!

A heart for the Youth House kids

A special video message was issued for the children of the Youth House this month. It came from the pupils of the Czech primary school *Machovka*. In the video they released, you can see them going in front of the camera and sticking pictures of them on a huge heart, as a symbol of love to the Youth House kids.

The person who had the idea of making this video was Tomas, a former long-term volunteer for SJ Vietnam.

“the goal is to work with these kids to build and enhance their friendship and to let them get a clearer idea of how is the life on the other side of the planet”



Tomas and his pupils of the Machovka school recorded a message for the Youth House kids during their workshop at the end of November.

After returning to his homeland, he tried to set up a partnership between the Youth House and his town's primary school.

Supported by many people, he already organized a beneficial concert in his town. This helped to raise 2000 Czech crowns which were sent to SJV for the purposes of the Youth House.

The partnership Tomas and his friends are trying to build between

the *Machovka* school and the Youth House should mainly consist of communication between the kids of both schools. As he says, *"the goal is to work with the kids from these two schools to build and enhance their friendship and to let them get a clearer idea of how is the life on the other side of the planet"*. In order to do this, the kids have been sending each other messages, both emails and letters. The

video "Heart for the Youth House" also intends to introduce the *Machovka* school pupils to the Vietnamese kids and to all those who watch the video.

In about two months, the Youth House kids will also receive a big surprise. The Czech pupils collected about 20 Kg of toys as a donation for their new Vietnamese friends. Personal messages have been attached to these toys. doubt the children

No doubt the children of the Youth House will be very glad when receiving these toys and reading all the messages attached to them!

To see the video "Heart for the Youth House", go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqwolPwzQF8>



The kids of the Youth House have the opportunity to communicate with children from the other side of the planet.

SJV Club's first event: Teamwork skill training

SJV Club's first event named Teamwork skill training was held on 29 November 2009 at the Youth House (16 An Xá St.) SJV Club as well as other participants had a joyful time together.

The teamwork training day began with an introduction about SJV Club and participants. Most of the participants study in high schools while others study at universities.

The participants were then divided into two groups. The first challenge was to make a name and a slogan for the

group. Everyone discussed excitedly. Finally, group 1 chose the name "Rainbow" and the slogan "Blow the pain" while the name of group 2 was "WildFire" and their slogan was "Go 4 it, winners never quit". The names and slogans have in themselves more meaning than what they seem.

The two groups joined many fun games such as "Tam sao thất bản" and "Holding chopsticks" and a discussion on teamwork skills. All the activities in this event aimed at improving the teamwork skills of the participants.



Festivals !!!!

In December and January, Fred and Cédric, our two French volunteers, with the help of local and international volunteers will organize two festivals promoting the "Youth House project" and bringing the two slum villages named "The Fisher Village" and "The Island" (located under the Long Bien Bridge) and their inhabitants to light.

When the Island shows up! , Wednesday the 23rd of December

Kids will enjoy fantastic world of music, juggling and dance performances at the Stadium of the Island (Red River) from 3 to 5 pm. The event will gather together kids from the Island, local inhabitants and local/international volunteers from SJ Vietnam.



In Between Festival, Sunday the 24th of January

Raising awareness of several issues such as sustainable development, environment and arts will be the main focus of this festival illustrated by exhibitions, concerts and workshops. Fundraising will also be a spot point as well as sensitizing spectators to the life of the inhabitants of both slum villages, and participating actively in the community interest. The delicious venue will offer a warm stage hall, and a terrace with a stunning overview of Ha Noi city. The festival will take place on two sides with simultaneous activities, outdoor and indoor. The stage will welcome artists of different origins from 4 till 10 pm.

Features: Ambient music, dances, guitar, songs, poems, circus performances, photo and painting exhibitions, associative stands and..... free massage!

A free-shop area will also be settled: participants can bring all the stuff they do not need anymore (furniture, clothes, books, magazines...), put them in the free-shop area and take whatever they need from this area. Everything will be for free and for anyone. All the rest at the end of the day will be sent to the Youth House Project.

Contact us if you want to be in the venue of the festival, we are still looking for:

- artists, performers, musicians and dancers
- associations or clubs to hold their own table about environment, HIV, ...
- volunteers to help us on this day and to promote it on internet and in Ha Noi
- sponsors since the festival is a free event

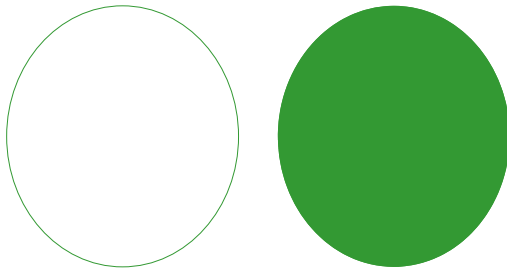
"ANY HELP IS A BLESS"

For more information or to join us: fred@sjvietnam.org



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Volunteer for sharing, learning, and being responsible



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Check our website for upcoming events and latest news!

www.sjvietnam.org

Merry Christmas !

